

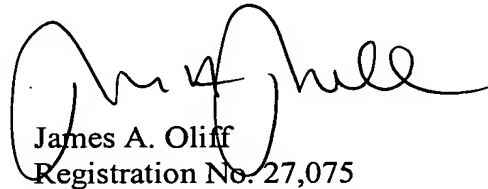
October 29, 2003, which is prior to the August 5, 2004 35 U.S.C. §102(e) date of Amanuma.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:RHR

Attachment:

English translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-368962

Date: June 3, 2008

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